

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending in the Application. Claims 1-2, 4, 6-7, 9, 11-12 and 14 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e). Claims 3, 8 and 13 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections for at least the reasons stated in the response having a mailing date of January 3, 2006 and file a Notice of Appeal concurrently herewith.

As a result of the foregoing, it is asserted by Applicant that claims 1-15 in the Application are in condition for allowance, and Applicant respectfully requests an allowance of such claims. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner call Applicant's attorney at the below listed number if the Examiner believes that such a discussion would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues.

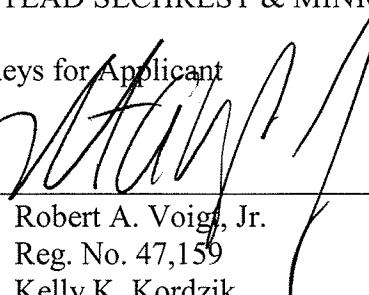
Respectfully submitted,

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